

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

OFFICER DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EMPTYING OF DOG BINS – 25th SEPTEMBER 2019

Background to the Decision

Braunstone Town Council had a contract with Blaby District Council to empty 48 dog bins and 1 litter bin twice a week located on land owned by the Town Council. The charge for this service was £7086.04 per annum. This relates to a rate of £1.395 per dog bin empty and £1.175 per litter bin empty.

In November 2018 Blaby District Council announced that, following a review of their Parish Bin Service, they were proposing to increase their rates from 1st April 2019 to £2.79 per bin empty. There would no longer be separate charges for dog or litter bin emptying. Further, from 1st April 2020 an extra charge would be made for each bin collection that was greater than 10m from the highway. Due to the location of many of the Town Council bins on our parks, this extra charge would be payable on many of our bins. From 1st April 2019, if we plan to utilise the service from Blaby District Council, the cost for the emptying of all our bins on a twice a week collection will increase to £14217.84 per annum, relating to a £7131.80 increase to the annual cost.

If the service from Blaby District Council had continued from 1st April 2020 the Town Council would see a further increase of £1.00 per bin from £2.79 to £3.79 for those bins more than 10 metres from the highway.

Under the current financial constraints faced by the Town Council, there was no scope for an increase in dog bin emptying budget to accommodate this price rise. Therefore the extra costs would have to be taken from the existing Parks and Grounds budget set for 2019/2020 which would leave a substantial shortfall in budget for our ongoing costs to ensure that the parks and open spaces are maintained at their current levels.

In light of this increase in cost, alternative options had been investigated in order to assess how we can continue with the dog waste bin emptying and disposal but keep the cost at the current level as much as possible.

Quotations had been obtained from four contractors to provide a dog bin emptying service based on a twice weekly basis and the contract was awarded to Target Pest Control. It was agreed that an audit of the number of bins, locations and frequency of bin emptying be undertaken between 1st April 2019 to 31st August 2019.

An audit of the dog bins was undertaken up to 30th September 2019 and it was agreed with the contractor and Town Council staff that the only change to the contract was to decrease the emptying of the dog bins to once a week at a charge of £2.10 per bin per collection. This equates to £5241.60 per year plus VAT by using the existing contractor. This reduction in the number of times the bins are emptied amounts to a saving of £5241.60 per annum without an adverse effect on the service we are providing.

Authority for Decision

The contract was awarded to Target Pest Control at a unit cost per bin empty £2.10 equating to an annual cost (based on current service) of £10,483.20 (Policy & Resources 14/2/2019 minute 82, resolution 3). The Executive Officer & Town Clerk had been given delegated authority to approve changes to the dog bin numbers and collection frequency and to implement these from 1st September 2019 if required (Policy & Resources 14/2/2019 item 82, resolution 6).

Decision

1. That the emptying of dog bins, amounting to 48 bins, on land owned by Braunstone Town Council be reduced from twice weekly to once a week;
2. That the service be monitored to ensure that the reduction in the number of weekly collections does not have an adverse effect on the service provided;
3. That the emptying of dog bins be undertaken at the end of the week (ideally Friday) to ensure that the bins are empty of the weekend when they are most likely to be used.

Reasons for Decision

1. That, following an audit of the service, it was agreed that all bins only required emptying once a week.
2. To ensure that no detrimental issues occur with the dog bin service due to the reduction of the number of times bins are emptied.
3. To ensure that the bins are empty for the weekend when they are most likely to be used.

List of Background Documents

Approved By:



Print Name: Darren Tilley

Date: 25th September 2019

NOTE:

CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 (SECTION 17) – The Council has an obligation to consider Crime & Disorder implications of all its activities and to do all that it can to prevent Crime and Disorder in its area.

EQUALITIES ACT 2010

Braunstone Town Council has a duty in carrying out its functions to have due regard to:-

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and;
- foster good relations between different groups

To ensure that no person receives less favourable treatment on the basis of race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, sexual orientation, age, religion or belief, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.

These issues were considered in connection with each of the above decisions. Unless otherwise stated under each item of this report, there were no implications.